

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for time-shifted viewing of audio/video programs comprising:

~~simultaneously~~ receiving one or more audio/video programs from one or more sources, wherein the one or more audio/video programs are associated with data about the programs, the data about the programs provided over a network connection;

storing each of the one or more audio/video programs as program data in one or more cyclic buffers, whereupon being filled the one or more cyclic buffers begin replacing the oldest of the program data with the newest ~~of the~~ program data; and

simultaneously providing playback control of the program data independently from storing the one or more audio/video programs, wherein time-shifted viewing is delayed viewing of the one or more audio/video programs currently being received from the one or more sources, the viewing of which may be initiated and controlled simultaneously with the storing of the one or more audio/video programs, and wherein one or more device configuration settings may be configured via a user interface over ~~[[a]]~~ the network connection, wherein the network connection comprises an Internet connection.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising moving the program data from the one or more cyclic buffers to one or more storage devices for archival of the program data.

3-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A system for time-shifted viewing of audio/video programs comprising:

~~video~~ an input for ~~simultaneously~~ receiving one or more audio/video programs from one or more sources, wherein the one or more audio/video programs are associated with data about the programs, the data about the programs provided over a network connection;

one or more cyclic buffers for storing the one or more programs as program data in a cyclical fashion whereupon being filled, said cyclic buffers begin replacing the oldest program data with the newest program ~~of said~~ data and are operable for simultaneously reading and writing of program data; and

a playback control interface for providing playback control of the program data independently from the storing of the program data, wherein time-shifted viewing is delayed viewing of the one or more programs currently being receiving from the one or more sources, the viewing of which may be initiated and controlled simultaneously with the storing of the one or more audio/video programs, and wherein one or more device configuration settings may be configured via a user interface over ~~[[a]]~~ the network connection, wherein the network connection comprises an Internet connection.

7. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, further comprising a storage device comprising semi-permanent memory for storage of the one or more audio/video programs.

8.-14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the playback control comprises random access play, stop, pause, rewind, and fast-forward functions.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising capturing the playback control as viewing habit data.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising storing the viewing habit data.

18-19. (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the data about the programs comprises plot summary data.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the data about the programs comprises rating data.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the data about the programs comprises cast data.

23. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the playback control interface includes control for random access play, stop, pause, rewind, and fast-forward functionality.

24. (previously presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the playback control functionality is associated with viewing habit data.

25. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~[[25]]~~ 24, further comprising memory configured to store the viewing habit data.

26-27. (cancelled)

28. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the data about the programs comprises plot summary data.

29. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the data about the programs comprises rating data.

30. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the data about the programs comprises cast data.

31. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium having embodied thereon at least one program, the at least one program being executable by a computer processor to perform a method for time-shifted viewing of audio/video programs comprising:

simultaneously receiving one or more audio/video programs from one or more sources, wherein the one or more audio/video programs are associated with data about the programs, the data about the programs provided over a network connection;

storing each of the one or more audio/video programs as program data in one or more cyclic buffers, whereupon being filled the one or more cyclic buffers begin replacing the oldest of the program data with the newest program of the data; and

simultaneously providing playback control of the data independently from storing the one or more audio/video programs, wherein time-shifted viewing is delayed viewing of the one or more audio/video programs currently being received from the one or more sources, the viewing of which may be initiated and controlled simultaneously with the storing of the one or more audio/video programs, and wherein one or more device configuration settings may be configured via a user interface over ~~[[a]]~~ the network connection, wherein the network connection comprises an Internet connection.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the device configuration setting comprises a record timer.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the device configuration setting comprises a video quality setting.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the device configuration setting comprises tuning to a particular channel.

35. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the device configuration setting comprises a record timer.

36. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the device configuration setting comprises a video quality setting.

37. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the device configuration setting comprises tuning to a particular channel.

38. (new) A method for time-delayed viewing of audio/video content, comprising:
- receiving audio/video content from an audio/video source;
 - receiving a playback control command from a viewer of the audio/video content, the playback control command received in response to the viewer having viewed at least a portion of the audio/video content; and
 - storing at least a portion of the audio/video content in archival memory, wherein the stored portion of the audio/video content includes a control code corresponding to the received playback control command and that may be used to control subsequent playback of the stored portion of the audio/video content.
39. (new) The method of claim 38, further comprising subsequently playing back the stored audio/video content from archival memory, wherein the playback of the stored audio/video content includes automatic execution of the playback control command identified by the corresponding control code.
40. (new) The method of claim 39, further comprising reporting the execution of the playback control command to a computing device for third-party analysis of viewer preferences.
41. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the playback control command received from the viewer of the audio/video content includes a fast forward command and subsequent playback of the stored audio/video content automatically fast forwards through the audio/video content stored in archival memory.
42. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the fast forwarding commences at a first edit point identified in the stored audio/video content and terminates at a second edit point identified in the stored audio/video content, the first and second edit points corresponding to the commencement and termination of the playback control command received from the viewer.

43. (new) The method of claim 42, wherein the first and second edit points further correspond to the beginning and end of a commercial.
44. (new) The method of claim 42, wherein the first and second edit points further correspond to the end and the beginning of a commercial.
45. (new) The method of claim 42, wherein the first and second edit points further correspond to the end of a first segment of audio/video content and the beginning of a second segment of audio/video content.
46. (new) The method of claim 42, wherein the first and second edit points further correspond to the beginning of a segment of audio/video content and the end of the segment of audio/video content.
47. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the playback control command received from the viewer of the audio/video content includes a fast forward command and wherein the portion of the audio/video content subjected to the fast forward command is not stored in archival memory such that subsequent playback of the audio/video content skips the portion of the audio/video content subjected to the fast forward command.
48. (new) The method of claim 47, wherein the portion of the audio/video content subjected to the fast forward command is a commercial.
49. (new) The method of claim 47, wherein the first and second edit points correspond to the end of a first segment and the beginning of a second segment in the audio/video content.
50. (new) The method of claim 47, wherein the portion of the audio/video content subjected to the fast forward command is objectionable material.

51. (new) The method of claim 48, further comprising reporting the execution of the fast forward command to an advertiser.

52. (new) The method of claim 50, further comprising reporting the execution of the fast forward to command to a ratings entity.

53. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the control of subsequent playback of the stored portion of the audio/video content through the control code may be configured through an on-screen menu displayed to the viewer of the audio/video content.

54. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the control of subsequent playback of the stored portion of the audio/video content through the control code may be configured through a remote control device.

55. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the control of subsequent playback of the stored portion of the audio/video content through the control code may be configured through a touch pad device.

56. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the control of subsequent playback of the stored portion of the audio/video content through the control code may be configured through voice control.

57. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the playback control command received from the viewer includes a pause command and play command.

58. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the playback control command received from the viewer includes a rewind command.

59. (new) A method for time-delayed viewing of audio/video content, comprising:
- simultaneously receiving audio/video content from a plurality of audio/video sources, wherein each of the plurality of audio/video sources corresponds to a channel and each of the channels corresponds to a dedicated portion of buffer memory at a digital recorder device;
 - simultaneously storing audio/video content received from each of the plurality of audio/video sources in the corresponding portion of buffer memory at the digital recorder device; and
 - playing back from a first dedicated portion of buffer memory the corresponding stored audio/video content received from a first channel corresponding to a first of the plurality of audio/video sources, wherein the audio/video content in the first dedicated portion of buffer memory is not simultaneously overwritten when a viewer changes from the first channel to a second channel corresponding to a second of the plurality of audio/video sources.
60. (new) The method of claim 59, wherein at least one of the plurality of audio/video sources includes an RF-modulated analog signal provider.
61. (new) The method of claim 60, wherein the RF-analog signal provider is a broadcast television provider.
62. (new) The method of claim 60, wherein the RF-analog signal provider is a cable television provider.
63. (new) The method of claim 59, wherein at least one of the plurality of audio/video sources includes a digital signal provider.
64. (new) The method of claim 63, wherein the digital signal provider is a high-definition television provider.

65. (new) The method of claim 63, wherein the digital signal provider is a satellite provider.
66. (new) The method of claim 63, wherein the digital signal provider is an Internet content provider.
67. (new) The method of claim 59, wherein audio/video content received on the first channel continues to be stored in the first dedicated portion of buffer memory after the viewer changes from the first channel to the second channel.
68. (new) The method of claim 59, wherein audio/video content received from the plurality of audio/video sources continues to be stored in the corresponding portions of buffer memory after the viewer changes from a first channel to a second channel.
69. (new) The method of claim 59, further comprising playing back audio/video content from a second dedicated portion of buffer memory corresponding to the second channel, wherein the playback of the audio/video content from the second dedicated portion of buffer memory occurs simultaneously with the playback of the audio/video content from the first dedicated portion of buffer memory corresponding to the first channel.
70. (new) The method of claim 69, wherein the simultaneous playback of the audio/video content from the first and second dedicated portions of buffer memory includes display of the corresponding audio/video content through a picture-in-picture feature.

71. (new) The method of claim 59, further comprising:

receiving a playback control command from the viewer of the audio/video content provided by the plurality of audio/video sources, the playback control command received in response to the viewer having viewed at least a portion of the audio/video content provided by two or more of the plurality of audio/video sources; and

collectively storing at least a portion of the audio/video content provided by the two or more of the plurality of audio/video sources in archival memory, wherein the collectively stored portion of the audio/video content includes a control code corresponding to the received playback control command and that may be used to control subsequent playback of the collectively stored portion of the audio/video content provided by the two or more of the plurality of audio/video sources.

72. (new) The method of claim 71, further comprising subsequently playing back from archival memory the collectively stored audio/video content provided by the two or more of the plurality of audio/video sources, wherein the playback of the stored audio/video content includes automatic execution of the playback control command identified by the corresponding control code.

73. (new) The method of claim 72, wherein the collectively stored audio/video content includes a first edit point and a second edit point, the first and second edit points corresponding to the commencement and termination of the playback control command received from the viewer.

74. (new) The method of claim 73, wherein the playback control command includes automatically fast forwarding from the first edit point to the second edit point.

75. (new) The method of claim 74, wherein the first and second edit points correspond to the beginning and end of a commercial.

76. (new) The method of claim 71, wherein the collectively stored portion of the audio/video content provided by the two or more of the plurality of audio/video source represents the entirety of a viewing session of the viewer.

77. (new) The method of claim 71, further comprising transferring the collectively stored portion of the audio/video content that represents the entirety of the viewing session to a removable media.

78. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the receipt of the one or more audio/video programs from the one or more sources occurs simultaneously.

79. (new) The system of claim 6, wherein the input is configured to simultaneously receive the one or more audio/video programs.

80. (new) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 31, wherein the receipt of the one or more audio/video programs from the one or more sources occurs simultaneously.